

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 23**  
**INCIDENT NO. 97-003**  
**DATE: February 5, 1997      TIME: 11:00 a.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Winter storms and blizzard conditions statewide.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: In Wells County, a large metal and wooden building near Fessenden collapsed under heavy ice and snow buildup. Approximately \$10,000 worth of farm machinery was damaged during the collapse.
4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:  
  
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.  
  
STATE: No change from previous reports.  
  
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Twenty teams of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state inspectors are participating in training February 5 at the Disaster Field Office in Bismarck. Inspectors are being trained on how to develop Damage Survey Reports (DSRs). Upon completion of training, inspectors will be assigned to satellite field offices in the following locations: Bismarck at the Disaster Field Office at 600 South Second Street; Minot at the N.D. Department of Transportation (N.D. DOT) District Office; Devils Lake at the Ramsey County Courthouse; and Valley City at the N.D. DOT District Office. These offices are scheduled to open February 6. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Two N.D. National Guard snow blower crews are scheduled to work in Richland and Stutsman Counties February 5. The National Guard also has dozer crews working in Barnes, Dickey, Eddy, Foster, Grant, Griggs, Kidder, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Nelson, Pembina, Ransom and Stutsman Counties. Equipment in use includes 30 dozers, two snow blowers, 27 tractor-trailers, 26 support vehicles and one grader. These missions are staffed by 60 Army Guard and seven Air Guard personnel. In addition to the 16 missions underway, National Guard personnel are evaluating requests from seven counties in need of dozer work.

N.D.DOT employees have compiled a list of contractors, which will be distributed to county emergency managers to help them in locating contractors. Private contractors continue to assist N.D. DOT road crews in the Devils Lake, Fargo and Valley City Districts.

A February 4 county-by-county update of snow removal efforts showed an average of 94 percent emergency access for all North Dakotans and an average of 67 percent push back of snow. In the northwest, 12 counties and the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation reported an average of nearly 97 percent access and nearly 86 percent push back of snow. In the southwest quadrant, 14 counties and the Standing Rock Indian Reservation achieved nearly 96 percent access and 83 percent push back of snow. In the northwest, 14 counties and the Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain Indian Reservations reported an average of 98 percent emergency access and 52 percent push back of snow. As snow removal efforts progress for the southeast zone, 12 counties report 82 percent emergency access and nearly 47 percent push back of snow.

The city of Robinson in Kidder County has issued an Emergency Declaration. Since the storms began, 52 counties, 70 cities and three Indian Reservations have issued Emergency or Disaster Declarations.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a dense fog advisory for extreme northwest North Dakota. Dense fog is anticipated to reduce visibility to one-quarter mile or less. The February 5 forecast for western and central North Dakota calls for temperatures in the 30s for the western region and 20s for the eastern portion of the state. The forecast also calls for a westerly wind of five to 15 miles per hour (mph).

The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports and photos of snow removal efforts are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: "<http://www.state.nd.us/dem>".

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Raymond J. Staiger, Acting State Director